

First Presbyterian Church
Las Cruces, New Mexico
13th Sunday after Pentecost – Communion Sunday
September 4, 2022 - 10:30 A.M
Enter to worship – Leave to serve



PRELUDE *Preludio* “Take Up Your Cross” (Hymnal#718) Lani Smith (1934-2015)
“Ah, Holy Jesus” (Hymnal#218) Austin C. Lovelace (1919-2010)
“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly” (Hymnal#509) Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

**The Prelude functions like a curtain that separates our world from the worship place of peace and sanctuary. We enter prayerfully. We wait expectantly, listening for God’s Spirit and truth, which challenges us to return to the world equipped for faithful and useful Christian service.
* *Those who are able, please stand* *Please turn off all cell phones*

WELCOME, GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Bienvenida, Saludos & Anuncios*

MEDITATION IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God’s instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted. Friends, this world is not your home, so don’t make yourselves cozy in it. (2 Peter 2:10-12 *The Message*)

INTROIT *Introito* “We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name” COME, SHARE THE LORD

ASSEMBLE IN GOD’S NAME
REÚNIRSE EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Llamada a la adoración* Dr. Janet Loman
(Psalm 1)

Leader: Blessed are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord,

People: **and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE *Himno de Alabanza*
#645 “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” MIT FREUDEN ZART

***PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)** *Oración de adoración (al unísono)*

Lord God, you who are Creator of the Universe and the Power behind all powers, we gather today as your people to praise you, and to hear your word, and to pray that your truth might guide us in our every action and thought. Help us come from our scattered lives to focus on your eternal truth. Assure us once more of your divine control over all things; help us to surrender ourselves completely into your loving care and to follow your path of holy obedience and joy. Be present with us and bless us, we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED *Tomen asiento por favor*

CALL TO CONFESSION *Llamada a la confesión*

#416 “O Come unto the Lord”

KOREA

- Scholars to sing verses
- Congregation to sing refrain

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) *Oración de confesión (unísono)*

O Holy and merciful God, we want to be more like Jesus, always faithful, loving, and obedient. But as you already know, there are things that we say and do that hurt other people. We remember that Jesus would go to a quiet place to think, listen, and pray, spending time with the Father. Now in our prayer, help us use this quiet time to think, listen, and pray. We want to be more like Jesus, and we are sorry that we stray from the paths of righteousness. Thank you for loving us enough to freely forgive us. Thank you for helping us amend our ways, and for helping us grow closer to you, day by day and year by year.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Momento de confesión en silencio y reflexión

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY *Seguros del amor y misericordia de Dios*

Leader: Hear the words of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of John and be comforted. "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in me and in my love." Friends, believe the Good News, all our sins are forgiven.

People: **By God's grace we are loved and saved. Through Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven; thanks be to God. Amen.**

Leader: Today we celebrate Communion, but what does that mean?

People: **The church confesses its faith when it bears a present witness to God’s grace in Jesus Christ. The Lord’s Supper is a celebration of the reconciliation of men with God and with one another, in which they joyfully eat and drink together at the table of their Savior. Jesus Christ gave his church this remembrance of his dying for sinful men so that by participation in it they have communion with him and with all who shall be gathered to him. Partaking in him as they eat the bread and drink the wine in accordance with Christ’s appointment, they receive from the**

risen and living Lord the benefits of his death and resurrection. They rejoice in the foretaste of the kingdom which he will bring to consummation at his promised coming, and go out from the Lord's Table with courage and hope for the service to which he has called them.¹

HYMN OF ASSURANCE *Himno de Seguridad*

#300 "We Are One in the Spirit" THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

GOOD NEWS TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Charlotte Brockway

Momento de buenas noticias para los discípulos jóvenes

- Children are asked to sit on the carpet squares in the front, and masks are optional for those who have been vaccinated.

CALL TO PRAYER *Llamada a La Oración*

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ANGEL'S STORY

Chancel Choir

PASTORAL PRAYER *Oración Pastoral*

ANTHEM *Himno*

"Bread of Life from Heaven"

BREAK NOW THE BREAD

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PROCLAMACIÓN DE LA PALABRA DE DIÓS

SCRIPTURE LESSON *Lectura de la escritura*

Dr. Janet Loman

Luke 14:25-33

Luke 14:25-33 (New Revised Standard Version)

Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

¹ from The Confession Of 1967, section 9.01 & 9.52. In approving the Confession of 1967, the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America adopted its first new confession of faith in three centuries.

SERMON *Sermón*

“What Am I Holding Back?”

Rev. Norm Story

*COMMUNION HYMN *Himno de Comunion*

#503 “Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation” O QUANTA QUALIA

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Today our Communion service will be a hybrid. We will serve and pass trays on the west and south sides, plus the choir and the childcare workers. The east will continue with masks and distancing, and will continue to use the pre-packaged Communion kits. There will also be kits available at west and south doors for those wishing to continue with the kits.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER

El Padre Nuestro y oración de acción de gracias

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE *Comunion de la gente*

GO IN GOD’S NAME

VAYAN EN EL NOMBRE DE DIÓS

BENEDICTION *Bendición*

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Bendición Coral*

“Bread of Life from Heaven”

BREAK NOW THE BREAD

After the choral benediction, you are welcome to come to the front for prayer.

*POSTLUDE *Postludio*

Hymn Tune Improvisation

Howard A. Smolleck

Liturgist – Dr. Janet Loman

Deacon Captain – Divine Mboh

Sound System – Curtis Benaway Video – Rusty Smith



Join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following Worship this morning in the Jones Hall Fellowship area. This is a time to welcome and greet new friends and old friends alike. Fellowship this morning is hosted by the In-Betweeners.

Rev. Dr. Norm Story	Pastor	Rev. Pyong San Yu	Korean Congregation
Dr. Janet Loman, CLP	College Ministry	Dr. Howard A. Smolleck	Organist
Bobby & Karen Candusso	Youth Group Sponsors	Karen Candusso	Salt & Light Coord.
Beth Borchert-Thomas	Dir. of Music & Bells		

Greeting before Worship Service:

Wanda Mattiace – E Patricia Adu-Mensah – W Linda Seaton - S

Greeting after Worship Service:

Charlotte Brockway – E Johnnie Aldrich – W Kathy Story – S

***Those who are able, please stand**

Please turn off all cell phones

Please remember in your prayers: Bill and JoAnn Kersting on the passing of their son Michael Kersting; Clyde and Juanita Treat; Kaaren Morehart; Joyce Hill; Rev. Jay Bishop; Johanna Miller, Dorris Hamilton, Genevieve Ariege, and Norma Klein at the Heritage; Rev. Marcus Burr; all who feel isolated in these troubled times; Presbyterian Church (USA); Deacons' Ministries; Missionaries Joel and Barbara Trudell, Cape Town, South Africa.

Welcome!

We come together as a community at worship to experience the grace of God, who is present in our midst. This is a time to open ourselves to Him and to each other. Expect great things of God and His grace will come to you! Thank you for coming to First Presbyterian Church; we are glad that you are here. If you are not active in a church home in this community, we invite you to consider joining our fellowship and sharing in this ministry of Christ.

Our sacred space is not this building or this Sanctuary, but it is the fellowship we share, the hospitality we live, and the presence of God we see in each other.

For prayer requests during the week, call the church office to get your request on the Church-wide Prayer Chain, or e-mail Linda Ramirez at linda@fpc.lc

Our Vision: A place where Christian love is modeled

Our Mission: To be a place where Christian love is modeled through:

1. Understanding, celebrating, and sharing God's Word.
2. Following obediently where God is leading us.
3. Leading, nurturing, and serving our community for Christ.

Greetings! Our worship services are now available

- 1) in-person, with Covid19 precautions
 - 2) live-stream on YouTube (search for: First Presbyterian Church Las Cruces, NM)
 - 3) video archive on the church website, our Facebook site or YouTube
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CHURCH CALENDAR

Call the church office 526-5559 for information on any events, or by the net: www.fpc.lc or
by e-mail: linda@fpc.lc Rev. Norm Story e-mail: revstory@fpc.lc
Facebook: Look up First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces

Sunday, September 4, 2022 Communion Sunday

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library.
We are viewing and discussing final two segments of the Lord's Prayer.
9:00 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary
10:30 AM Worship Service
11:45 AM After-Worship Fellowship in Jones Hall
12:00 PM Sermon discussion in the Jones Hall Library with Rev. Story

Monday, September 5, 2022

Office will be closed

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

3:00 PM Listening Prayer in the Jones Hall Parlor.
Call Mary Maley at 269-209-4357 if you have questions.

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

9:30 AM Staff meeting, office will be closed during meeting.
12:00 PM **DEADLINE for submissions for the Sunday bulletin**

Thursday, September 8, 2022

The Good News Newsletter goes out on Saturdays. Please send submissions to:
scotty.benaway@sbcglobal.net

Friday, September 9, 2022

Saturday, September 10, 2022

Sunday, September 11, 2022

9:00-10:15 AM Adult Sunday School led by Catie Brewer in the Jones Hall Library. The
class will begin to view and discuss a video Bible study series on the Book of Ruth.
9:00 – 11:45 AM Childcare in Branigan Hall
9:00 AM Sunday School for grades K-5 in Branigan Hall
9:00 AM Sunday School for grades 6-12 in Reeves Hall
9:15 AM Choir rehearsal with Beth Thomas in the Sanctuary
10:30 AM Worship Service
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CCLI License No. 540727



9/04 – Juanita Treat
9/07 – Max Loman, Sara Vaughan
9/09 – Linda Ramirez, Janet Lemon
9/10 – Mike McClanahan
9/11 – Rev. Jay Bishop

(If we missed your birthday, please call the office at 575-526-5559 or email Linda at linda@fpc.lc)



Nominating Committee needs your help!

The Nominating Committee has been working very hard to find new Deacons and Elders for the coming years. For a variety of reasons, we need to replace several of each. We are seeking those members of our church to help serve in different capacities on the church's committees that keep our church and community going. We are also looking for help for the various committees that the church has set up. If asked to serve, please say yes. If you'd like to help a committee, let one of us know by phone call, email or in person. We need your help! We need you!

Brent Brewer	206-819-7717	Paul Deason	575-644-8427
Karen Candusso	575-618-9474	Jim Parks	575-640-8180
Carl Connor	575-524-4706	Linda Ward	575-541-7470



Salt and Light Begins Soon!

It's that wonderful time of year again! The children and teens are settled in their school routines, and now Salt & Light Wednesdays, begin on September 14th. From 4:00 until 6:30 on Wednesdays, our church campus comes alive with young people who have gathered to learn, play, pray, praise God with music, and have dinner together in a Christian environment. The heart of this ministry is Matthew 5:13-16.

Salt & Light is open to all, from Kindergarten through high school, with childcare for preschoolers of volunteers. Your help in reaching out to the community is needed! Bring young neighbors, friends, and family members. Registering ahead is helpful, but can also be done on the 14th when students arrive. There's a form in today's Bulletin to mail or bring to the church office, or bring along on the first day.

There is no charge for attending Salt & Light, but a suggested donation for families or sponsors who can contribute is \$50/student, to help cover materials and meals. Of course, donations of any amount are gratefully accepted. If you can come on Wednesdays to help with snack time, meals, or working directly with students, please contact Director Karen Candusso, saltandlight@fpc.LC, or 575-618-9474.



September is here. Time for the **Mary Martha Circle** Bible study to meet. All ladies are invited to join us on Tuesday, September 13th at 9:45 AM in the church library for a social time. Then at 10:00 we will begin our exploration of the NT book of Jeremiah. Our new Bible study leader is Ada Castle who has a wealth of knowledge of the Bible. If you have questions please call Helen Moser at 575.647.3365 or Cheri McMillan at 575.526.2395.

A Sunday School Seminar by Larry Hicks

Beginning Sunday, September 11 at 9:00 am, Larry Hicks will offer a 10 week seminar in Branigan Hall: "A Mere Christian: the Life and Writings of C.S. Lewis." Please email Larry at pttptt45@gmail.com if you will be attending.

Covid19 precautions:

- **Seating in West and South sections of the Sanctuary are unrestricted. The East section is reserved for those wishing to wear masks and social-distance.**
- Hand-sanitizer and wipes are located at each door.
- A purple box with slots for depositing your offering is located in each aisle.
- Please register your presence with contact information or prayer requests on the small slip of paper in your bulletin and place it in the purple offering box in the aisle, so that if we need to do contact tracing later, we can contact those who were present.

Donations to support your church can be done in a variety of ways. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful giving.

- 1) Cash or check in the offering (purple boxes in the Sanctuary)
- 2) Check sent by mail
- 3) Church website: fpc.lc and click on the "heart" icon or fpc.lc/giving or scan QR code
- 4) Smartphone App: Church Center
- 5) Text 84321



September 18th, Promotion Bible Sunday

Each autumn, our church presents to third and sixth grade students their very own Bible. If you have a young family member who is beginning one of those grades this fall, it's important to notify the church, so the Christian Education Committee can have a Bible ready for him/her. You may deposit this tear-off in an offering box, or call the church office by Sept. 9th (575-526-5559, 9 am-2pm) with the information.

Student's name _____ Grade _____

Adult's phone contact information _____



**COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULT
DINNER NIGHT MINISTRY**

at
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES

We will be celebrating Fall Semester 2022
with an outdoor picnic in the back yard of Steve and Janet Loman
on
Friday, September 9, at 6:00PM
1622 West Union Avenue
88005

College and Young Adult Bible Study
begins on
Monday evening, September 12, @ 7:00PM
on Zoom

Please call Janet @ 575.202.4379 or
E-mail @ drjml@me.com

WE ARE HOPING TO SEE YOU! - FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

If you need a ride, please let us know.

---Flyers are at each door of the Sanctuary if you would like to pick one up.



El Caldito Soup Kitchen

For more than 20 years, the First Presbyterian Church has supported the soup kitchen known as “El Caldito” by providing volunteers to prepare and serve food. Volunteers are urgently needed. Please prayerfully consider how often you can help then contact Rusty Smith. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

The mission of El Caldito is to provide a healthy meal in a safe and clean environment for any hungry person.

A hot nutritious meal is served daily, Sunday through Friday, to everyone who comes to their dining room for lunch. A take-out sack lunch is offered on Saturdays.

There is no charge to guests and the only qualification to receive food is hunger. All food preparation is done by volunteers, using donated foodstuffs from various sources in the community.

Volunteer information and requirements:

Our church prepares and serves on the second Wednesday of each month from about 8:00AM to 1:00PM. A minimum of 8 volunteers are needed to complete a “crew”. The day’s crew leader will assign duties.

New volunteers are given an on-site orientation to kitchen procedures by experienced workers. There is no formal training program. Volunteers are expected to “sign in and out” to indicate the number of hours worked each day.

Ages under 15: Must be accompanied by a responsible adult

Attire: Kitchen volunteers wear clean clothes and closed-toe shoes. Shoulders and midriff are covered and pants or jeans are worn around the waist. Longer shorts are acceptable.

Hair is covered, using a hairnet, baseball cap, bandana, or other head covering, and long hair is tied back. Hairnet is provided.

An apron is worn in the kitchen, and disposable gloves are worn when handling food. Gloves are changed between tasks. Apron and disposable gloves are provided.

If you haven’t volunteered for a while or would like to volunteer, please let Rusty Smith (575-642-5069) know of your interest.